



Society of the Young.

of the land was in hay, much of it being old seedling, but some 200 tons were harvested in good condition. The remainder of the crop is oats, corn and potatoes. The oats are a good crop. A portion of this crop was sown on sod and in one field where a part of it had been fall plowed and the remainder left until spring a distinct difference could be noticed, the crop on the fall plowing being much heavier than that on the spring plowed land. The potatoes were planted with the planter, have been well cultivated, and have been sprayed with Bordeaux three times. From 800 to 1,000 pounds of fertilizer was sown per acre when the potatoes were planted. Over twenty acres of this crop are now showing the effects of good care and promise a large yield. The corn is not so good, but the season has not been favorable for this crop, and the rush of other work, coupled with a wet, backward season, has retarded cultivation and growth.

Most of the land is badly infested with mustard. To combat this troublesome pest spraying with copper sulphate solution was extensively tried this season with favorable results, the mustard succumbing to the treatment while the grains showed no evil effects. Dr. Mitchell was very much impressed with the success of the experiment and it is to be carried on in the future until the weed is brought under control.

The rotation which Mr. McCrimmon proposes following when the farm is all brought under cultivation is a three-year shift, oats followed by hay, with potatoes or corn the third season. Such a rotation, together with the manure from the pigs, cows and horses kept, cannot but increase the fertility of the land and at the same time spell annihilation to noxious weeds.

Corn and roots are to be the mainstay for the dairy herd of nearly forty grade Holstein cows. At the present time three frame silos are in use, one 14 feet by 16 feet, another 14 feet by 25 feet and a box stall 14 feet by 16 feet by 20 feet. While good satisfaction has resulted from keeping the silage in these, they are all to give place to one large cement structure to be located at the largest barn on the new farm. It must be remembered that a large dairy herd and a number of swine have been kept at the institution for some time previous to the purchase of the farm proper.

THE DAIRY HERD.

The dairy herd is managed on the latest up-to-date principles, being fed liberally the year round, milked regularly and records kept of every cow. From eight to ten of the most promising heifer calves are raised yearly, and the stable in which they have been kept previous to the buying of the farm is equipped with steel stanchions, is cemented throughout, the cows standing back to back, is light, whitewashed and clean in every particular. A stove and hot water boiler is attached to the water system and artificial heat, as well as hot water, provided right in the stable. The herd is now kept on the farm, where, in one of the barns, which is 100 feet long, a thoroughly modern underground stable is to be installed, with an abundance of light and every device to promote the health of the cows. Under present conditions the cows get their water from bowls in front of them. These have proven quite satisfactory, but Dr. Mitchell is a firm believer in

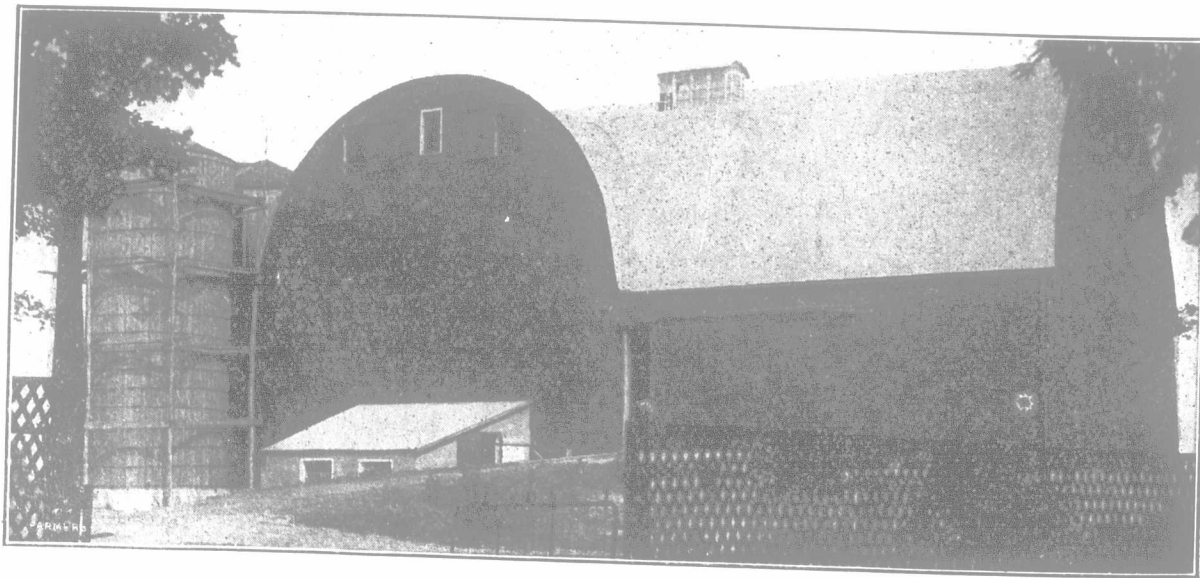
fresh air and favors letting the cows out in the yard every day for an hour or two for exercise.

A FINE ROOT CELLAR.

One of the best features of the stables at the institution is a large underground root cellar with capacity of 5,000 bushels, divided by plank partitions into five separate compartments, each with its own opening, through which it is filled, and each having in the center a square ventilator (1 foot square), bored full of inch holes about six inches apart from center to center. These ventilators extend up through the top of the cellar and are supplemented by a large one extending to the roof. This system has been found to keep the roots in good condition and no throwing back or second handling is necessary. To make it the ideal of root-house construction all the superintendent deems necessary is a raised slat floor to allow of a circulation of air underneath. With this done, no better root-house could be desired, as drainage is now complete, the cement floor all sloping to the center and front, so that no condensed moisture can remain in the cellar.

POULTRY RECORDS.

The poultry is well-housed, being kept in one of Prof. Graham's hundred-hen, twenty foot square, open front houses. This house is seven feet high in the center, has a window five feet high in the west end and a two-foot wire screen the entire length on the south side, while the north side is boarded up four feet high, with the cracks battened. In this house last winter the temperature fell to 30 degrees below zero, yet June-hatched Wyandotte and Buff Orpington pullets began to lay in November, and from December first to March 31st about seventy-five of these produced two hundred and thirty-nine dozen eggs, laying steadily throughout the coldest of the weather. The cockerels were fattened and sixty-four of those killed weighed over 370 pounds, many dressing over six pounds each. This was not a bad start for the first year and better results are looked for with greater experience. Besides being a credit to the management, it speaks



An Oxford County Barn.

On the farm of S. A. Freeman, Dereham Township. Showing also one of his four silos.

well for the type of house which, by the way, has a cement floor.

HOGS AND THEIR HOUSING.

The piggery is one to be proud of. It is 140 feet long and thirty feet wide, with a feed alley down the center and pens on either side. The pens and troughs are cement, but each is fitted with a plank-floored elevated sleeping place and ten of the pens have the high sleeping apartments built upon the partitions, plank-floored, and enclosed with wire. These have been found entirely satisfactory and are called the pig "parlors"—a real drawing-room which is not intended for luxury alone, but is a great saving of space. Each pen has a cement-partitioned and cement-floored outside apartment for feeding pigs, exercise and getting fresh air. The feed room is situated above the pigs, and in the centre of the pen a stove is built in with cement and brick and furnishes artificial heat through steam pipes connected with the water system, as well as being a source of warm water for winter feeding. Almost perfect ventilation is secured through over twenty ventilators. The manure is wheeled away some distance from the pens and dumped over a bank, so as to avoid any odor in the pens. The brood sows, forty in number, consisting of Yorkshires and Berkshires, run in a paddock near the piggery. Young pigs are sold off the sows, as much as \$1,600 being made annually from this source alone. They bring \$2.50 per pair at four weeks of age. About fifty feeding hogs are kept all the time. These are fed from refuse from the institution and upon shorts, and are made to weigh from 225 to 250 pounds at seven to eight months of age. Here is a point for the everyday farmer. There is a value beyond that recognized by most people in the kitchen refuse. Ordinary swill is good pig feed. Utilize every bit of it. From June until June \$2,071 has been made from pig feeding alone at this institution, and kitchen waste made up the greater part of the feed.

Ninety acres of rough land is to be devoted to sheep. This is likely to be a very profitable undertaking, and is a good example for farmers generally. There are hundreds of acres in this country unfit for cultivation, which grow the finest of sheep pasture, and the more quickly they are used for this purpose the better.

Gardening is carried on quite extensively, and all the vegetables for the table are produced. The orchard has been sprayed thoroughly this year and is carrying an exceptionally heavy load of fair quality, fall and early winter fruit. A few more years will see it in excellent condition.

This is only a beginning for this undertaking. Other institutions, longer established, have made a great success of their farm. It will be interesting to watch the development of this venture, and at the same time compare it with others of the same class. All the Provincial farms are now supervised by S. E. Todd, B. S. A., a thoroughly practical graduate of the O. A. C., and great things have been and are being accomplished on these farms.

Capacious Barns and Silo.

In buildings and general farm improvements the County of Oxford, Ont., takes second rank to no other in the Dominion. This is true not only in respect to individual homesteads, but still more strikingly in respect to the general average. An exceptionally large barn even for this splendid section is that of S. A. Freeman, who farms 300 acres of land and milks about seventy cows the year round. The main barn shown in the accompanying engraving is 96 ft. x 45 ft. and 56 ft. x 40 ft. with 24 ft. posts and a total height of 48 feet from basement floor to top of roof. The roof is round and covered with corrugated metal. Mr. Freeman used to be an extensive hog feeder, but has done nothing in this